

(c) In Shikohabad - Farukhabad section, works for track strengthening and upgradation in accordance with route classification and annual traffic density have already been sanctioned. Works are progressing.

Construction of overbridge at Dumraon Station

†366. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress, so far made in the construction of an overbridge at the Dumraon station under Buxar district in Bihar;

(b) whether it is a fact that building material for the construction of this overbridge is kept at the Station for the last two years but construction work has not taken up as yet; and

(c) if so, the time-frame set for the completion of this work and the reasons for the delay in this work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The physical progress of work made so far is 75%.

(b) Part material for construction of Foot over bridge was available but delay took place due to change in the drawing, further arranging of materials as per revised drawing & delay in obtaining Commissioner of Railway Safety sanction.

(c) The work is planned for completion by 31.03.07. Delay took place due to change in the drawing, further arranging of materials as per revised drawing and delay in obtaining Commissioner of Railway safety sanction.

Rail-Kosi Mahasetu

†367. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that target of completion of "Rail-Kosi Mahasetu" at Kosi river in Bihar has been fixed as March, 2009;

(b) whether it is a fact that construction of not even a single pillar of this 40 pillars mega bridge has been constructed as yet despite the fact that its foundation was laid and work was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister of Railways on 6 August, 2005;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(c) whether it is also a fact that even one pillar that was completed has now got tilted to greater extent; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Well, foundation for six pillars have been taken up.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Leasing out of Vacant Railway Land

†368. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has any plan to lease out some of vacant pieces of railway land lying near certain railway stations for construction of hotels or guest houses; and

(b) if so, the details of the procedures and parameters being adopted by his Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Railway is in process of identifying surplus land at 100 sites. These will be allotted for Public Private Partnership (PPP) on open tender basis through two packet bidding systems consisting of technical and financial bid.

Corruption in Railway Reservation

†369. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of RAI LWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that mostly the long distance passengers are troubled by the corruption prevalent in railway reservation and the wayward, T. T. Es in trains;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.